

## Trash Can Chili takes top honors



*From left front row: Bill Black, Judy Brandt, Chris Hudson, Arleen Edwards, Stefanie Howell, Joyce Thelen, Paula White and Chris Click. Back row: Brian Happie, Bob Gundy, Kathy Genson, Gay North, Cheryl Patterson and Ed Hosey. Chefs not pictured are Sally Wood and Dureen Leland.*

Not to be outdone by the numerous food channel recipes and competitions or by any number of celebrity chefs whose names have become routine dinner-time conversation, the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility (IBC) Employee's Club held their annual chili cook-off challenge to determine who has the best-tasting chili recipe at their facility.

This year six teams competed by making their own recipe or combining their chili with other batches of chili to create a special taste.

IBC employees sampled the fare and cast their ballot for their favorite.

The IBC business office's version of Trash Can

Chili took top honors this year. Participants were awarded a Toque (chef's hat) for their hard work.

Heating up the competition was IBC Storekeeper Mike Johnson. Johnson donated \$100 and IBC employees followed suit donating a total of \$326 to the Michigan National Guard Family Support Program. The program assists Guard families in need with temporary emergency financial assistance. **F.Y.I.**

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## Third-shift officers save life



*C/O Raymond Barber, C/O Kenneth St. Charles and Sgt. Thomas Losito.*

Heavy rainfall coupled with runoff from melting snow caused some flooding in the Saginaw area just outside the Saginaw Correctional Facility resulting in some unfavorable road conditions.

Last week at approximately 11:00 p.m. a young man who lives in the vicinity was driving near the facility when he lost control of his car as it hydroplaned on the ice and water. He hit an embankment and then landed upside down in the water-filled ditch.

Officer Kenneth St. Charles heard the accident happen while conducting zone checks, and immediately notified Control Center. Sgt. Tom Losito and Officer Raymond Barber responded to the scene, entered the ditch, and rescued the driver by pulling him from the overturned vehicle as it was filling with water.

Local law enforcement officials credit the quick actions of SRF staff for saving the driver's life.

"The officers at the Saginaw Correctional Facility are vigilant and alert and this incident is no exception," said Warden Jan Trombley. "I am extremely proud of their efforts." *J.Y.J.*

## District offices host Japanese visitor



*From left: Program Manager Marilyn Washington, Judge Akira Kuranari and Supervisor Kenyatta David.*

Court Services, Special Services and Chrysler District offices hosted an international visitor this month.

Judge Akira Kuranari from District Court in Tokyo, Japan toured the offices to better understand how the Court and the Probation division of the Field Operations Administration work together. The judge is in Michigan observing Third Circuit Court's daily operations.

Court Services Program Manager Marilyn Washington gave the judge a tour of Court Services and Special Services while Chrysler District Probation Program Manager Beverly Smith gave the Judge an overview of probation supervision and a tour of the office.

Judge Kuranari said that he was very impressed with how the department is able to manage such a large volume of offenders. *J.Y.J.*



## Saginaw purchases coats for kids



*From left are Saginaw Employee Club officials: Gerard Groya, Lori Galbraith, Yvonne Buckey, C/O Pablo Olvera, Anna Dowd, Jilette Perkins and Edward Paine.*

The Saginaw Correctional Facility employee club recently purchased 22 winter coats to be donated to Saginaw Public Schools for children in need.

Last fall, prisoners donated 50 plus hand-knitted scarfs and hats with staff adding 10 winter coats in a donation at Thanksgiving to a local school but SRF staff realized that more help was called for.

“There still is a need and with the stores discounting winter wear, we can help a lot of kids at a low cost,” said C/O Pablo Olvera. “We’ve had 20 inches of snow within the last week. Winter’s not over yet. We’re going to try and purchase additional coats yet this season.”

Additional prisoner-knitted scarfs and hats are currently being donated to Project Head Start of Saginaw County. *3.11.1*

## Michigan hosts the 2005 Jimmy Carter Work Project

The week of June 19 - 24, Michigan will host the 2005 Jimmy Carter Work Project (JCWP). More than 3,000 volunteers from all over the world will converge on the host cities of Detroit and Benton Harbor to build safe, decent and affordable housing.

More than 230 houses are slated to be dedicated on June 24. A total of 50 homes—30 in Detroit and 20 in Benton Harbor—will be built entirely during the JCWP work week. The remaining homes are being built now, or will be started early this spring.

The Michigan Department of Corrections Prison Build Program will be an active contributor, as staff and inmates will assist with the construction of wall panels, cabinets, trim, and sheds, and providing horticulture products.

There are a number of opportunities to volunteer with many of the 63 Habitat affiliates in Michigan that will be participating in the JCWP.

For more information and volunteer opportunities visit these Web sites:

[www.habitat.org/jcwp/2005/host\\_counties](http://www.habitat.org/jcwp/2005/host_counties) or [www.habitat.org/jcwp/2005](http://www.habitat.org/jcwp/2005). *3.11.1*

## Don't Be Waiting at the Pier When the Change Train Leaves the Station

I'm a little slow but I've picked up on something I feel compelled to share. Some of you may have noticed it too. Times have changed. I'm not talking routine, subtle change. I'm talking about gut wrenching, soul searching and life-changing change.

Change, change, oh the sweet smell of a clean refreshing change. Admittedly, many of us do not view (smell) change this way. It clearly would be more accurate to say that we think change stinks.

Government is currently being reinvented and altered forever. We used to hear talk of when things get back to normal. We don't hear that much anymore because *Normal*, whom we were very fond of, has left town and in his place is his mean, cruel and much disliked second cousin *Change*.

Here's the bottom line for us. We can get on the change train or we can dig our heels in, cross our arms, and wait down by the pier for our ship of stability, certainty and comfort to come in.

There are lots of reasons we may fear change that include fear of the unknown, comfort with the current routine, we like stability, etc. I am no fortuneteller, but I'm pretty sure we will not be seeing *Normal* again any time soon.

We may not like *Change* especially since he ran off our old pal *Normal* but we may want to embrace him none-the-less because he's going to be around awhile.

Ideas to Help Embrace *Change*:

- Re-examine everything. Many things go on in government for government's sake. If it does not serve the needs of the citizens, we probably can't afford it.
- Forget about "but this is how we've always done it."
- Brainstorm everything. What seemed crazy last year may be happening this year or may have already happened.
- Do as much as possible to help others. Saying "that's not my job" could spell the end for your position if cuts must be made. If it needs doing help get it done.
- Be prepared. Take a class, get a degree, cross train.
- Don't take it personally, even if it hurts. Bumping, demotions and lay offs are terrible but the truth is that 80 percent of people who lose their jobs end up saying that it was the best thing that ever happened to them. Although I'm pretty sure they don't say it that the same day.
- Think about all the good things that have happened in our lifetimes. Many of them were brought about by the need for change.
- Consider how our lives would look if there had not been radical change in the last 100 years or so.

Change may not always be our friend, but we are clearly better off accepting it and dealing with it rather than ignoring or resisting.



By Michael Montgomery,  
Leadership Training  
Coordinator, DeMarse Training  
Academy

## Egeler staff helps sponsor trip to Special Olympics

Nick Ward, the son of Corrections Officer Norm Ward, was one of seven Special Olympians from Michigan chosen to attend the 2005 International Special Olympics in Nagano, Japan. Although Nick's cost to attend the games is covered by Special Olympics, the cost for family members to attend and support their children is not. Once this was discovered by the staff at the Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center (RGC), they organized a variety of fund-raising events. Between bake sales, chili dog and sloppy joe lunches, an additional casual day and a raffle, the staff raised \$5,449 to assist C/O Ward in attending the 2005 International Special Olympics.

Nicholas returned home a gold medalist earning his gold in the 100 meter cross country ski sprint event and a silver in the 50 meter. *F.Y.I.*

## Facility gathers toys for Iraqi kids



*Marta Ford, Secretary at Southern Michigan Correctional Facility.*

Marta Ford, Secretary at Southern Michigan Correctional Facility (JMF) has a son, Scott, who is serving in Iraq with the Michigan National Guard. Scott is a Company Commander for a security force in the Baghdad area.

When recently asked what he wanted for his upcoming birthday, Scott told his mom, "My troops and I have most of the things that we need, but the children in this area are very, very poor and really love the U.S. soldiers. Every week we do a humanitarian effort where we distribute food items, but my soldiers would really like to give a small gift to the children."

So with this request, Marta got permission from JMF's Warden Burt for a 14-day initiative called Support Our Troops. Staff members were asked to donate new or like new toys, trinkets,

clothes, children clothing and/or money to cover the cost of sending the items to Iraq.

"There will be some happy children in Iraq in the near future, all because Marta decided to try and help make her son's birthday wish come true, no matter how far away from home he is," said Warden Burt. "JMF staff can always be counted on to offer support to co-workers and their families." *F.Y.I.*

## Happy St. Patrick's Day



# Jail and Prison Overcrowding task force makes recommendations

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he Michigan Task Force on Jail and Prison Overcrowding, which included representatives of the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and other Law Enforcement representatives, presented their final report to Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and Task Force members' associations today in Lansing.

The Task Force also included representatives of the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Department of Corrections, the Michigan Judges Association, the Michigan District Judges Association, the State Court Administrative Office, and the Defense Bar. The work of the Task Force was facilitated by a Principal from the Center for Effective Public Policy [on behalf of the National Institute of Corrections (NIC)]. In addition, information regarding national programs was presented to the Task Force by a representative from the Pretrial Services Resources Center.

"Members of the Task Force have worked diligently reviewing the capacity concerns of the state's jails and prisons and have developed strategies for more effective and efficient utilization of jail and prison resources without compromising public safety," Teresa Bingman, Deputy Legal Counsel for the Governor and Chairperson of the Task Force said, "The Governor appreciates their efforts and is anxious to review the Task Force's solutions to Michigan's incarceration issues."

Michigan Department of Corrections Director Patricia L. Caruso said her department is prepared to consider many of the recommendations. "The Task Force has identified strategies to stabilize and ultimately reduce the growing jail and prison populations," said Caruso. "The report outlines the need for collaboration among the communities, state departments and local sheriff's departments."

Some of the substantive strategies to criminal justice leaders and policy-makers from the Task Force include:

- Encourage rational planning and collaboration efforts between the state and counties that emphasize efficient and effective utilization of jail and prison resources, and that do not compromise public safety.
- Explore ways to increase the number of residential placement services for offenders who are in jail because there are no treatment or secure settings available.
- Encourage counties to enhance pretrial services programs by incorporating a validated risk and needs assessment tool, one of the least and cost-effective measures to ensure offender's compliance. This tool will help determine an offender's current risk of failure to appear or risk of recidivism when bond is set, and when the court utilizes new technology such as electronic monitoring.
- Encourage increased collaboration among courts, law enforcement, corrections and mental health agencies to identify, divert and treat mentally ill offenders.
- Assess county jail capacity in each jurisdiction to determine whether there is a need for expansion. Any recommendations should be based on an extensive analysis of the criminal justice system, jurisdiction by jurisdiction, and utilize a specialized work group (such as the Michigan Task Force on Jail and Prison Overcrowding) that is assisted by state or national criminal justice experts (such as the NIC or a similar organization). Moreover, recommendations should focus on providing flexible responses to a diverse offender population (e.g., gender, classification).
- Encourage counties to enhance jail services and diversion programs for mentally ill offenders, especially those awaiting forensic examination.
- Support the MDOC efforts to reduce recidivism through the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative and encourage re-entry initiatives at local levels

A final copy of the report is available at [www.michigan.gov.gov](http://www.michigan.gov.gov) . 7.11.1.



# Promotions through Feb 26

| Effective Date   | Name                    | Position                       | Location           |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| January 30, 2005 |                         |                                |                    |
|                  | TAYLOR-WILLIAMS NANCY E | ADMIN TECH SUPV-2              | MICH STATE INDUS   |
|                  | FOLTS FRED C            | ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 | THUMB FACILITY     |
|                  | RUHLMAN WILLIAM J       | ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 | THUMB FACILITY     |
|                  | MCNULTY STEVEN E        | CORRECTIONS OFFICER-E          | COTTON FACILITY    |
|                  | VIERK TRACIE D          | CORRECTIONS OFFICER-E          | COTTON FACILITY    |
|                  | BRIDGES WALTER S        | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | HANDLON            |
|                  | BROWN DENISE A          | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | PARNALL FACILITY   |
|                  | LEVY JILL               | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | MID-MICHIGAN       |
|                  | SCHRAUBEN PHILLIP M     | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | OAKS FACILITY      |
|                  | HUNTER JEFFERY L        | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2       | MID-MICHIGAN       |
|                  | ROSE WARREN F           | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2       | MID-MICHIGAN       |
|                  | MCALLISTER STEPHANIE P  | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-3       | MUSKEGON FACILITY  |
|                  | NEQUETTE TERESA J       | DEPARTMENTAL TECHNICIAN-E      | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | RONDEAU WILLARD L       | INDUSTRIES SUPERVISOR-2        | MICH STATE INDUST  |
|                  | SHUKER SANDRA L         | REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER-2     | MARQUETTE BRANCH   |
|                  | GOBERT KERRY L          | RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2        | HANDLON            |
|                  | CURTIN CINDI S          | SENIOR EXECUTIVE WARDEN        | OAKS FACILITY      |
|                  | RIVARD STEVEN           | STATE ADMINI MANAGER-1         | MID-MICHIGAN       |
|                  | COBBIN WENDY B          | STATE TRANSITIONAL PROFSNL-E   | THUMB FACILITY     |
|                  | SEAY DARIUS D           | STOREKEEPER-A                  | MACOMB FACILITY    |
| Feb. 13, 2005    |                         |                                |                    |
|                  | MASSEY DANA S           | ACCOUNTANT-E-PP-FROZEN         | OJIBWAY FACILITY   |
|                  | BLANKENBURG CRISSA D    | ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 | IONIA FACILITY     |
|                  | SAHR TIMOTHY R          | CORR PROGRAM COORD-A           | EGELER FACILITY    |
|                  | SHEARS MARILYNN J       | CORR PROGRAM COORD-A           | EGELER FACILITY    |
|                  | CASSA ROBERT E          | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | PARNALL FACILITY   |
|                  | PEREZ AMAURY G          | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1       | HANDLON            |
|                  | FRANK JAY R             | CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2       | BELLAMY CREEK      |
|                  | EMMONS JILLENE M        | CORRS TRNSPRTATN OFCR-E        | RIVERSIDE FACILITY |
|                  | SCHNEIDER LARRY         | DEPART ANALYST-A               | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | HEINRITZ LAURA S        | DEPART SPECIALIST-2            | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | MCCLOUD, ANTHONY        | DEPART SPECIALIST-2            | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | SCHOOLEY SCOTT A        | DEPUTY PRISON WARDEN-3         | EGELER FACILITY    |
|                  | JEFFERSON MARILYN       | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION I       |
|                  | MCHUGH ANDREW           | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION III     |
|                  | CONNELL JOHN R          | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION III     |
|                  | SASSO RICK P            | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION III     |
|                  | SMITH DIMIKA N          | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION II      |
|                  | SNYDER SANDRA J         | PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E     | FOA REGION I       |
|                  | SMEAD ROGER J           | RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2        | BROOKS FACILITY    |
|                  | MELLING LORRI           | SECRETARY-A                    | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | RHYNARD ELIZABETH A     | SECRETARY-A                    | MID-MICHIGAN       |
|                  | SIMMON LINDSAY S        | SECRETARY-A                    | CENTRAL OFFICE     |
|                  | MARKHAM JULIE           | SECRETARY-E                    | CENTRAL OFFICE     |

## Kent County probation collects bears



The Kent County Probation Office collected casual day funds to purchase teddy bears for children residing at their local Ronald McDonald House.

The bears will be provided to children staying at the home as well as to the siblings of those in temporary residence. *F.Y.I.*

## Central Office FOA hosts baby shower



*Donna Weber and Marie Darnell with baby gifts*

The Central Office Field Office Administration Employee Recognition Committee members recently sponsored a baby shower for Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing. FOA staff along with Parole Board staff collected a large number of gifts along with \$110 in cash.

Those organizing and assisting with the event were: Marie Darnell, Donna Weber, Kami Pasch, Carol Boughton, Patty Faynor, Mike Keck, Pat Brubaker, Dave Oesch, Cynthia Johnson, Cathy Evenson, Lynn Downing, Charlotte Prochazka, Rosemary Roberts and Brock Elliott. *F.Y.I.*